

tain<sup>ed</sup> very largely by new-comers : more than a third have their birthplace elsewhere. But it is difficult to establish a connection between fertility and immigration : indeed we find the highest birth-rates in districts of East London where the immigrant population is comparatively small. And taking England as a whole, urban life does not appear to be prejudicial to fertility. The average birth-rate is actually lowered if we exclude the 100 largest towns from our calculations.

It may be that the very high infantile death-rate amongst the poorest classes of our towns results from a form of infertility which denies length of life to offspring although it may permit them to be engendered. But this is only a surmise, and generally, if we understand by fertility reproductive capacity, there is little to show that it is affected by surroundings—that, in fact, the English birth-rate would not rise very greatly if celibacy fell into disrepute, child-bearing became fashionable, and marriage was not so long delayed after the attainment of the age of puberty.

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If the physical features and characters of the races of mankind are derived very largely from environal influences we should expect to find them modified where these influences are changed. We have seen that this has very often occurred even within the period of history.

English families lose their vigour in tropical countries : a like change was suffered by the northern peoples who. band after band fought their way to the shores of the Mediterranean, by the Aryan, Scythian. and Tartar invaders of India. by the Arabs who left their deserts for the amenities of Syria, North